(b) and (c) The number of people likely to be benefited by the project from flood protection and irrigation facility is much more than the number of likely Project Affected People. The apprehension of some of the people is that adequate compensation would not be given to the displaced persons. Brahmaputra Board who has taken up execution of the project has organized public meetings and awareness measures in association with Government of Assam to explain the compensation packages to Project Affected people considering the apprehensions. There is no proposal to shift the project as there is no alternative site available.

(d) No, Sir.

Clearance of Sripada Sagar Project

249. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for clearance of Sripada Sagar project (Yellampally Project State-I and State-II);

(b) if so, the present Status of the proposal; and

(c) by when, the above proposal is likely to be cleared by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Preliminary report of Sripada Sagar (Yellampally) project received during May 2005 Central Water Commission is under appraisal. Comments on Hydrology and Interstate matters were sent to state Government on 18th August 2006 and 11th December 2006 respectively. Replies from State Government is awaited.

The requisite clearance to the project proposal depends on promptness with which State Government replies to the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

Irrigated surface water and ground water

250. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how much area is irrigated by surface water and how much by

ground water out of net irrigated area of 53.07 million hectares;

(b) whether in view of alarming ground water depletion scenario in the country would emphasis shift to surface water resources;

(c) if so, whether it may prove an expensive preposition, as the rate for development of irrigation potential through surface water is about Rs. 1,20,000 per hectare and that for ground water is Rs. 30,000 per hectare, further, surface water irrigation projects have long gestation period and spill-over costs; and

(d) if so, what is the projection for creating new irrigation potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the Land Use Statistics for 2003-04 compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, the net irrigated area of the country is 55.1 million hectare. The source-wise details are as under:

a.	Canals	15.14 Million hectare
b.	Tanks	1.94 Million hectare
c.	Wells	35.26 Million hectare
d.	Other sources	2.75 Million hectare

(b) to (d) The status of ultimate irrigation potential and the irrigation potential developed so far is as under:

(In million hectare)

Description	Through Major & Medium irrigation projects	Through Minor irrigation schemes	Total
Ultimate Irrigation Potential	58.46	81.43	139.89
Irrigation potential created upto March 2006	41.38	59.59	100.97
Balance irrigation potential	17.08	21.84	38.92

For the country as a whole, there is scope for development of irrigation potential through minor irrigation schemes which includes ground water schemes. However, there are instances for over-exploitation of ground water resources in certain areas. In this regard appropriate measures have been taken by the respective State Governments as well as Central Government. The initial cost of creation of potential through major and medium irrigation is relatively higher but the operational and maintenance charges are much less. Further, the choice of facility for irrigation development are governed by many factors including the availability of the resources.

Failure of National Water Policy

†251. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that present National Water Policy has failed in solving the water problems (water sharing and irrigation of fields) prevailing in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that various States of the country are involved in serious dispute with regard to river water sharing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the State-wise details of the efforts being made and achievements realised by Government with regard to river water, underground water and water crisis; and

(e) Government's view point on various irrigation projects proposed for Madhya Pradesh and pending with the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The National Water Policy (NWP) addresses the various issues related to management and development of water resources. The NWP states that the water sharing/distribution amongst the states should be guided by a national perspective with due regard to water resources availability and needs within the river basin. The NWP also states that the Inter-State Water Disputes Act of 1956 may be suitably reviewed and amended for timely adjudication of water dispute referred to the Tribunal. The Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been amended in August 2002. The Ministry of Water Resources encourages and facilitates in resolution of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.